

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 166421
ORIGIN ARA-14

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:DPIERCE:KC
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR

SUBJECT: U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES IN GRAND TURK

1. CAR COUNTRY DIRECTOR HEAVNER CALLED IN UK FIRST
SECRETARY JOE MILLINGTON JULY 14 TO PROPOSE INFORMALLY
THAT THE 1961 AGREEMENT COVERING THE U.S. MILITARY
FACILITIES IN THE TURKS & CAICOS (ETR, NAVFAC, AND
LORAN) BE EXTENDED ELEVEN YEARS BY AN EXCHANGE OF
NOTES. HEAVNER SAID TERMS OF OLD AGREEMENT SATISFACTORY
TO U.S. AND COULD BE EXTENDED WITHOUT CHANGE.

2. MILLINGTON RESPONDED THAT THE GOTC AND THE UK ARE
WORKING ON A SMALL PACKAGE OF REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE,
INCLUDING REPAIR OF SOME ROADS, RETURN OF UNUSED LANDS,
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AND ACCESS TO BASE TELEVISION FACILITIES. HE ADDED
THAT GOTC WOULD ALSO WANT ANNUAL RENTAL.

3. HEAVNER SAID THAT THE U.S. DOES NOT FEEL RENTAL
CHARGES ARE APPROPRIATE, CITING THE USUAL CLOSE COOPERA-
TION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE BETWEEN THE UK AND THE U.S.
ON DEFENSE MATTERS. AS FOR RENT PAYMENTS TO THE GOTC,

THE TURKS AND CAICOS ARE A UK CROWN COLONY AND THEREFORE

THE COMPLETE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UK. HEAVNER ALSO
NOTED WE PAY NO RENT FOR SIMILAR FACILITIES IN ASCENCION
ISLAND AND BERMUDA. HEAVNER INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT
WE MAY BE ABLE TO CONSIDER RETURN OF SOME UNUSED LANDS
AND PERHAPS LIMITED ROAD REPAIRS AS ENVISAGED UNDER
THE OLD 1961 AGREEMENT.

4. MILLINGTON SAID THAT WHEN IT IS READY HE WOULD PROVIDE
THE GOTC/UK POSITION INFORMALLY, SO THE U.S. COULD REVIEW
THE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. HEAVNER AGREED, STRESSING
HOWEVER THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO MISUNDERSTANDING OF OUR
POSITION ON RENTAL CHARGES, I.E. WE ARE NOT CONSIDERING
PAYING RENT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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